United Nations E/2016/NGO/43

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
24 May 2016

Original: English

2016 session
24 July 2015-27 July 2016
Agenda item 5
High-level segment

Statement submitted by Labour, Health and Human Rights Development Centre, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council*

The Secretary-General has received the following statement, which is being circulated in accordance with paragraphs 30 and 31 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31.

* The present statement is issued without formal editing.

16-08621 (E) 310516

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Statement

Labour, Health and Human Rights Development Centre sees the current Sustainable Development Agenda as a veritable programme that is essential for the improvement of human dignity and the encouragement of sustainable peace in every facet of our society. Nevertheless, Labour, Health and Human Rights Development Centre's current assessment is that Nigeria has not started activities on the Sustainable Development Agenda.

This might be due to lack of adequate build-up of information and communication on the development agenda. The three tier government (the Federal, State and Local) seems quiet on the sustainable development agenda. They have neither initiated nor taken the appropriate lead that will spur stakeholder's attention to the Agenda, unlike what was done with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The private sector has been left in the dark concerning the development agenda. Thus, adequate information, which is the bedrock of success and transformation, has been short circuited.

Therefore, there is need to build on the existing bottom-up structures utilized for the MDGs. This will require informed stakeholder participation at all levels, which is currently lacking in our own assessment. Also, institutions, the private sector and local capacity will need to be strengthened to assist in implementing the sustainable development agenda.